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MINUTES

OF THE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

OF

NORTH-CAROLINA AND ADJACENT STATES,

CONVENED AT

UNION CHURCH, ROWAN COUNTY, N. CAROLINA,

MAY, 1828.

Salisbury:
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1828.

MINUTES

Of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North-Carolina, and Adjacent States.

THE Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North-Carolina and Adjacent States, convened according to adjournment, on the first Sunday in May, 1828, at *Union Church*, Rowan county, N. C. and remained in close session during the 5th, 6th, and 7th, transacting business relative to its ecclesiastical concerns.

Saturday previous, the Rev. Jacob Scherer preached in the German language, from John, 6 ch. 37 ver.; and Rev. D. J. Hauer in English, from Psal. 116, 12 v. After which Rev. J. Reck received two persons as full members, by confirmation, and performed the service preparatory to communion.

On Sunday morning, the Rev. President, G. Shober, preached the Synodical Sermon, in German, from Ephes. 6 ch. 54 v. to an immense crowd of attentive hearers; and was followed immediately by Rev. William Jenkins, who preached in English, from 2 Tim. 3 ch. 15 verse.

After a short intermission, Rev. J. G. Schwartz, of Charleston, South Carolina, preached from 2 Cor. 8 ch. 9 v.

The Lord's Supper was then administered; of which the Ministers, lay deputies, and 120 members, participated. We feel persuaded, that, to many who united in the celebration of this solemn institution, it proved a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord; and that the impressions made by this interesting scene, will not soon be forgotten.

Monday, May 5th, 9 o'clock.—Synod was constituted with singing, and a prayer by the president.

The names of the Ministers were then called.

PASTORS.

Rev. C. A. G. STORCH, Rowan county, N. C.
" GOTTLIEB SHOBER, Salem, N. C.
" JACOB SCHERER, Wythe county, Va.
" MARTIN WALTER, Botetourt county, Va.
" DANIEL SCHERER, Cabarrus county, N. C.
" JACOB MILLER, Stokes county, N. C.
" JOHN RECK, Salisbury, N. C.
" HENRY GRAEBER, Lincoln county, N. C.

LICENTIATES.

Rev. William Jenkins, Bedford county, Tennessee.
" John C. A. Schoenberg, Union county, Illinois.
" Andrew Seechrist, Washington county, Va.
" Daniel J. Hauer, Guilford county, N. C.
" John P. Cline, Virginia.
" Jacob Grieson, Guilford county, N. C.

CATECHET.

Adam Grimes, Wilkes county, N. C.

Rev. J. G. Schwartz, from Charleston, was then introduced as the ministerial delegate from the sister Synod of South Carolina, to a seat and vote among us.

Rev. C. A. G. Storch, and J. P. Cline, were absent.

LAY-DELEGATES TO THIS SYNOD.

Messrs. John Noll, John Conrad, and Martin Ripple, from Rev. Shober's congregations;

Col. John Miller, from Rev. Jacob Scherer's congregations;

John Linn, Esq. Messrs. Jacob Meisenheimer, Robert Linn, Michael Weinkauf, Peter Troutman, Rev. Daniel Scherer's congregations;

Jesse W. Walton, Esq. Henry C. Kern, Esq. Mr. Henry Bustle, from Rev. J. Reck's congregations;

Mr. John Smoyer, from Rev. Henry Graeber's congregations;

Mr. Michael Miller, from Rev. M. Walter's congregations.

Mr. Adam Neufang, from Rev. Jacob Miller's congregations;

Mr. Nicholas Anthony, from Rev. W. Jenkins's congregations;

Michael Holt, Esq. Col. John Smith, Mr. Andrew Scherer, from Rev. D. J. Hauer's congregations;

Mr. Peter Grossglas, from Rev. Andrew Seechrist's congregations;

Consequently, the Synod consisted of 34 members.

Rev. Jacob Scherer having declined a re-election to the office of Secretary, the following Brethren were chosen to act in an official capacity for the ensuing year:

Rev. G. SHOBER, *President;*
Rev. JOHN RECK, *Secretary.*

The Secretary then presented General Rules for the government and direction of this body during session; which were read, article by article, and, after some amendments, unanimously adopted.

All papers and communications were then handed in and numbered.

Rev. Jesse Rankin, from Salisbury, was introduced as an advising member. Synod then adjourned.

After a short intermission, Rev. Henry Graeber preached in German, on John, 14 c., 13 v. After which Rev. John G. Schwartz, preached in English, from Jeremiah, 8 ch. 22 v.

Afternoon, at 3 o'clock, Synod resumed its deliberations.

Resolved, that this Synod in humble reliance on the *Triune God*, endeavor to establish a *Missionary Society*, the design of which shall be, to supply the destitute in the bounds of this Judicatory with the gospel of peace; and that Rev. J. Reck, W. Jenkins, D. Scherer, and J. G. Schwartz, constitute a committee to draught a constitution for that purpose.

Resolved, that a committee be nominated, to examine the Treasurer's Account, consisting of Rev. Henry Graeber, John Linn, Esq. Henry C. Kern, Esq. and Mr. Conrad.

Resolved, that committee 1st on petitions, be composed of Rev. D. Scherer, Messrs. Henry Bustle and John Smoyer.

Committee 2d on petitions, was composed of Rev. President, Jacob Scherer, John C. A. Schoenberg, John Linn, Esq. and Col. John Smith.

Committee 3d on miscellaneous papers, constituted of Michael Holt, Esq. Michael Miller, Rev. Schoenberg, and Jacob Miller.

Committee 4th on petitions from Congregations, was composed of Rev. D. J. Hauer, Martin Walter, Jesse W. Walton, Esq. and Col. John Miller.

Resolved, that letters from Rev. J. P. Cline, &c. be referred to the ministerium.

Resolved, that the Secretary be authorized to deliver to the Elders of Orange Church, such papers out of the archives of the Synod as they may need.

The proceedings of this day were then closed with prayer, and Synod adjourned until next morning.

Tuesday, the 6th, 9 o'clock.—Synod was constituted by singing and prayer.

The committee on the Treasurer's Account reported as follows:

REPORT: The balance of the last account, rendered by the Treasurer, was, - - - $54 99 3-4

Received on subscriptions,	- -	20 40
Do. of Rev. W. Jenkins,	- -	15 00
Do. of Rev. Jacob Scherer,	- -	9 30
Total,	- - -	$99 69 3-4

All disbursements since the last Session:

By order of the Synod to Rev. Schoenberg,	$10 00	
Postage on minutes, - - -	40	
Freight from Baltimore, - - -	2 80	
For printing English minutes, - -	43 00	
Book Binder, - - - -	8 00	
Rev. Mr. Reck for postage - -	87 1-2	
For printing of German minutes - -	54 00	
Carriage of minutes - - -	1 08	
Rev. D. J. Hauer, - - -	25	
To Mr. Leidecker, - - -	12 45	
To Mr. Morehead, - - -	6 00	
Total, - - -	$138 85 1-2	
	99 69 3-4	
The receipts deducted from the disbursements leave the Synod indebted to the Treasurer,	$ 39 15 3-4	

Your committee would advise, in reference to the letter received from the church council in Charleston, that the money called for, be refunded as soon as we are able, with a deduction of 37 dols. which was actually appropriated to the purpose for which it was given. Your committee further advise that a friendly letter be addressed by our President to the Brethren in Charleston, acquainting them of the above; and as we have a number of Luther Books unsold, that they be requested to receive some, and dispose of them to our credit. Respectfully submitted.

HENRY GRÆBER, *Chairman Com.*

Accepted by Synod.

Resolved, that Rev. W. Jenkins be credited 2 dol. for Books Luther, in consequence of the insolvency of the purchasers.

Resolved, that Rev. G. Shober act as *Treasurer* for this Synod during the ensuing year.

The following donations were received, and handed into the Synodical Treasury:

REV. GOTTLIEB SHOBER'S Congregations.		
From Nazareth congregation, - - -	$2 00	
Hopewell, - - - - -	62 1-2	
REV. JACOB SCHERER'S Congregations.		
From Old Church, - - - - -	2 00	
St. John's - - - - -	3 25	
Kimmerling's - - - -	1 90	
Mr. George Sprecher, - - -	25	
REV. DANIEL SCHERER'S Congregations.		
From Organ Church, - - - -	5 18 3-4	
St. John's - - - - -	7 92 1-2	

Savage's - - - - -	3	62 1-2
Bethel - - - - -	2	96 1-4
Cold Water - - - -	2	15
A friend from Orange Church, -		20
From Rev. Martin Walter's congregations, -	3	62 1-2
REV. JOHN RECK'S Congregations.		
From Salisbury - - -	3	00
St. Michael's - - -	5	12 1-2
Union - - - -	11	18 3-4
From Rev. William Jenkins's congregatons, -	10	12 1-2
Mr. John Zivily, sen. - -	5	00
Rev. W. Jenkins - - -	2	00
From Rev. C. A. Shoenberg's congregations -	1	50
From Rev. Andrew Seechrist's congregations -	3	00
REV. D. J. HAUER'S Congregations.		
From Guilford - - - -	4	25
Lexington - - - -	1	50
From Rev. Henry Graeber's congregation -	2	68 3-4
Total, - - -	$85	07 1-2

The Committee on the Letter from Rev. Mr. Lintner of New-York, reported, and recommended that the Rev. President prepare an answer, and forward it to the Rev. Mr. Lintner, for publication in the Lutheran Magazine. Accepted by Synod.

The committee on sundry petitions from Guilford, then reported, part of which was referred to the ministerium, and a part was returned to a second committee for re-consideration, consisting of Rev. W. Jenkins, J. C. A. Shoenberg, John Linn, Esq. and Mr. Anthony.

Synod now adjourned till after preaching.

Rev. Jacob Miller then preached, from Isaiah, 53 ch. 10 v.

Afternoon, 2 o'clock: Synod resumed its deliberations.

The Secretary as chairman of the committee nominated to draught a Constitution for the Missionary Society, reported, and presented a constitution drawn up by the committee for the consideration of Synod; which was read, article by article, and after some amendments, accepted. A constitutional number of subscribers having been obtained, a society was immediately formed, the constitution adopted, officers elected, and all seemed to rejoice in anticipating the great good that may be effected by this society in future.

The Society was called the "*Evangelical Lutheran Missionary Society of North-Carolina, and adjacent States;*" and its design is to supply those who are destitute, with the Gospel

of Salvation. [See the Constitution of the Missionary Society.]

The committee on Petitions from ministers and congregations, reported as follows:

No. 3 Is a petition from Davidson county, N. C. and has reference to Mr. Reichard, formerly a member of this body, which the committee beg leave to refer to the ministerium. Accepted by Synod.

No. 4 Is a letter from Rev. Adam Grimes, in which he assigns the reasons of his absence from our last synodical meeting, and prays that his License be renewed. We recommend that his apology be sustained. Accepted.

No. 5 Is a petition from the Elders and Deacons of the Lutheran congregations in Bedford and Lincoln counties, Tenn. in which they earnestly pray for the services of an additional Minister, and promise to give him an adequate support. Your committee regret that it is utterly impracticable, at present, to comply with their pressing calls; but recommend that this Synod endeavor to do so as soon as possible. Adopted by Synod.

No. 6 Is a petition from the Lutheran congregations in Union county, Illinois; which your committee would refer to the ministerium for their decision. Agreed to by Synod.

No. 7 Is a petition from St. John's, Old Church, Kimmerlings, and Chilhowe congregations, in Wythe and Washington counties, Virginia, in which they pray to be received under the care of this Synod, expressing their entire satisfaction with their present Pastor, and invite this body very pressingly, to have its next session at St. John's Church, Wythe county, Virginia. We recommend that their petition be granted.

Resolved, that the first part of this report be adopted, and that the above specified congregations be cheerfully received.

No. 8 Is a petition from Rev. Mr. Seechrist's congregations, in which they recommend him as a pious and zealous minister, and pray for a continuation of his ministerial labours. The committee advise that this petition be also granted. Accepted.

No 9 Contains a very pressing invitation from Lexington, Davidson county, to this Synod, to hold its next session with them.

No. 10 Is a petition from the members of the congregation of Luther Church, Rowan county, which was lately organized through the instrumentality of Rev. Daniel Scherer, to be received into connexion with this body, and to be sup-

plied with regular preaching. We recommend that they be received, and that Rev. Daniel Sherer continue his labours among them. D. J. HAUER, *Char'n. of Com.*

Accepted, and Synod adjourned until next morning; after which, the ministerial session commenced. [See ministerium.]

Wednesday morning, 9 *o'clock*.—Synod was constituted by singing and prayer.

The committee to whom was recommitted sundry petitions from Lexington and Guilford, then reported.

No. 11 Contains a petition from the congregation in Lexington, to be received under the care of this Synod. Your committee respectfully recommend that this be done.—Accepted.

No. 12 Contains a petition from Rev. Daniel Hauer's congregations in Guilford county, signed by the Elders and Deacons, who solicit a continuance of his labors among them. Your committee having taken into consideration the state of those congregations, and the welfare of our Zion, would earnestly recommend that Rev. Mr. Hauer be requested not to remove from these congregations, but to continue his labours awhile longer among them.

WM. JENKINS, *Ch'n. Comm.*

After some discussion on this subject, it was finally referred to the *ministerium*.

Resolved, that the Parochial Reports be handed in:

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

	Congregations.	Baptized	Confirmed.	Communicants.	Buried.
Rev. G. Shober - - - - -		7		30	
Jacob Scherer - - -	5	87	17	125	12
Daniel Scherer - -	5	144, 2 adults	64	561	34
Martin Walter - - -	4	50	6	179	4
Jacob Miller - - - -		28		62	8
John Reck - - - - -	3	75, 16 adults	73	240	15
Henry Graeber - - -	6	31		45	6
William Jenkins - -	5	42, 5 adults	46	170	
John C. A. Shoenberg	2	92	26	62	5
D. J. Hauer - - - -	6	32, 3 adults	13	200	10
Andrew Seechrist -	3	30		149	8
J. P. Cline - - - - -		34		104	9
Jacob Grieson - - -		5			9
Adam Grimes - - -		10			6

Resolved, that, as Mr. Schyler has not returned his license, nor made application for renewal, he therefore cannot be recognized any more as a member of this *ministerium*.

Committee on petitions from individuals, reported as follows:

No. 13, Is a petition from Union church, Tennessee, in behalf of a Mrs. Swalt, who wishes to be restored to church privileges. Your committee recommend that this Synod decide whether this can be consistently done. After some discussion on this subject, it was laid over to the next session.

No. 14, Is a petition in behalf of Mr. John Menzer, of Iredell county, who also wishes to be restored to membership. Your committee is of opinion that this cannot be done consistently with a resolution passed by this body in the year 1817. After considerable discussion, it was resolved, that it be referred to the General Synod for their advice.

Resolved, that Rev. Jacob Miller visit the vacant congregation on *Fourth creek* occasionally; and Rev. Messrs. Schoenberg and Cline in Pendleton county, Virginia.

Resolved, that Rev. President take charge of the vacant congregations in Stokes county; and that Rev. Messrs. Secretary, Jacob Scherer, and Jacob Miller, visit them occasionally.

Synod now adjourned till after preaching.

In compliance with a resolution of the *ministerium*, an appropriate discourse was delivered by the Rev. Jacob Scherer, from I. Tim., 3, 16; subsequently to which, the Rev. *William Jenkins* and *John C. A. Schoenberg*, were solemnly ordained as Pastors in the Evangelical Lutheran Church, in the presence of a large concourse of persons.

Wednesday, 3 *o'clock*, *P. M.*—Synod resumed its deliberations.

Resolved, that Rev. John C. A. Schoenberg take charge of the congregations in Union county, Illinois; and that they be requested to give him a decent support.

Resolved, further, that this Synod endeavor to establish, at this place, a Missionary Station, and that Rev. Schoenberg be authorized to collect such books towards a Library for that purpose, as he may deem most useful.

Resolved, that the time and place of the next meeting of this Judicatory, be now appointed. St. John's Church, near Wythe Court-House, Va. and the first Sunday in May, were accordingly appointed.

Resolved, that this Synod assist Mr. Schoenberg, in selecting books for the Library at the Missionary Station.

Resolved, that it be recommended to all the members of this Synod, to endeavor to form Tract Societies, Auxiliary to the American Tract Society of New-York, and Sunday Schools in all their congregations.

Resolved, that Rev. G. Shober and John Reck, be appointed delegates to the next meeting of the Lutheran Synod of South Carolina, to convene in Charleston; and that Rev. William Jenkins be their alternate.

Resolved, that the President write on to S. S. Schmucker, Professor of Theology at Gettysburg, to send us as soon as possible, a pious and gifted young man, who may advantageously be engaged as a missionary.

We are truly sorry that Rev. Samuel K. Hoshour could not attend as a delegate from our sister Synod, but his apology was sustained.

Resolved, that Rev. J. P. Cline be appointed a delegate to the next Session of the Lutheran Synod of Maryland and Virginia.

Resolved, that 300 copies of our minutes be printed in German, and 300 in English.

Resolved, that copies of our minutes be transmitted to the different Lutheran Synods, in the following ratio: 5 copies to the General Synod; 5 ditto to the Synod of New York; 5 ditto to the Synod of West Pennsylvania; 5 ditto to the Synod of Ohio; 10 ditto to the Synod of Maryland and Virginia; 10 ditto to the Synod of South-Carolina.

Resolved, that Rev. Messrs. Shober, John Reck, D. Scherer, Jesse W. Walton, Esq. and ~~Michael Holt, Esq. act as directors~~ of the Theological Seminary, at Gettysburg, for this Synod, the ensuing year.

Resolved, that the first Monday in August next, shall be appropriated as a day of thanksgiving and prayer, by the members under our jurisdiction.

All Candidates and Catechets then received their credentials for the ensuing year.

The day was now drawing to a close, when the Rev. President delivered an effectionate and pathetic address to the members of Synod, and presented his thanks, with the joint acknowledgments of the members of Synod, to the people of Union Church, for their kindness and hospitality. After which, the brethren all united with him on bended knees, in fervent prayer to the great Head and Bishop of our souls, for his divine assistance in our humble efforts to promote his kingdom; invoking his blessings on the missionary and other benevolent societies, that he would richly bless their supporters, and that he would pour out upon the church a spirit of supplication and prayer. After the Benediction was pronounced, Synod adjourned, and the members took a friendly leave of each other, animated with fresh courage and zeal to break anew, unto their flocks, the bread of life.

MINISTERIAL SESSION.

Tuesday evening, 6 *o'clock*.—Sermons of Licentiates were handed in, and examined.

Resolved, that though the condition of Rev. Mr. Hauer, in Guilford county, is not a desirable one, that he be charged to continue his services there for the ensuing year; and that the con-

gregations be requested to give him a decent support; and in case this is not done, we cannot blame him for removing.

Resolved, that Rev. William Jenkins, and John C. A. Schoenberg, be ordained on to-morrow.

Resolved, that Rev. John P. Cline have his license renewed for one year.

Resolved, that Rev. Andrew Seechrist, D. J. Hauer, and Jacob Grieson, also receive candidate license for the ensuing year.

Resolved, that Adam Grimes, and John Reichard, obtain Catechet License, for one year.

The *ministerial* session then dissolved.

That the above is a true copy of the proceedings of the Lutheran Synod of North-Carolina and Adjacent States, held at Union Church, Rowan County, May, 1828, is certified by

JOHN RECK, *Secretary.*

A Narrative of the STATE OF RELIGION *in the bounds of the Lutheran Synod of North-Carolina, and Adjacent States, drawn up by the Secretary, from the Reports of individuals.*

In reviewing the progress of truth, and the present state of religion in the congregations under the care of this judicatory, there is cause both for humiliation before God, and also of gratitude and encouragement to make greater efforts in the dissemination of the Gospel, and the promotion of the Redeemer's kingdom.

We have cause to be grateful to the giver of all good and perfect gifts, that he has smiled on the humble efforts of his servants; and that we have had, during the past year, many pious and respectable accessions.

Our Rev. Senior, C. A. G. Storch, who may be with propriety called the father of many respectable Lutheran Congregations in N. C. though incapable of preaching now, in consequence of age and infirmity, still seems to feel the same zeal and interest in the prosperity of our Zion, that so eminently characterized him in his laborious life of activity; and still preaches in the hearts of some, by his pious example, and the character which he established.

Rev. President, G. Shober, though far advanced in years, still continues to preach, visit Sunday Schools, and assist liberally, religious and benevolent societies.

Rev. Jacob Scherer has removed from Guilford to Wythe county, Virginia, where a large field of labour has presented itself to him, and at this time officiates in five congregations.

Rev. Daniel Scherer has the care of five large congregations, which are in a flourishing condition; sixty-four have been added to the churches this year, and a still greater number have made application, and are now receiving instruction: Five Sunday Schools were established in the above specified congregations last summer, and an additional one this spring; which have done much good among the young and old. About 300 pupils were instructed last summer, in the Holy Scriptures; some of whom made the most astonishing progress. It is also believed that the preaching of the gospel is frequently blessed in these congregations, and made efficacious to the salvation of immortal souls. This has been evinced in the solemn hour of death, when persons have been seen to rejoice in the anticipation of a glorious immortality. A new congregation has also been organized by the Rev. Daniel Scherer, in Rowan county, consisting of 20 members; and a number more have made application for admittance.

Rev. John Reck, has the care of three congregations, some of which were but imperfectly formed when he took charge of them; and preaches at several other places, where congregations may be formed. His audiences are generally large, respectable, and often very solemn; considerable interest is felt by some of the members in the establishment of Missionary, Bible, Colonization, and Tract Societies, and have contributed liberally towards their support. The Sunday Schools are still carried on, though not with as much zeal and spirit as is desirable. About 15000 pages of Tracts, of the American Tract Society, have been distributed and deposited in the above congregations by their Pastor, which have been read with a great deal of eagerness, and it is hoped will do much good. Upwards of 80 persons have been added to these three churches in the past year, and admitted to full communion by confirmation and baptism, some of whom are heads of families.

From the Rev. Jacob Miller's report, it appears that he has the care of five congregations, one of which has been visited with the quickening influence of the spirit of God. The church on Sandy Creek, Davidson county, had dwindled away to a few members, when the Rev. G. Shober visited them in the year 1816 and 1817, and excited them to greater exertion in the divine cause, and to have their children instructed, which was accordingly done; and in the year 1819, twenty were added to the church, some of whom were heads of families. Much solemnity pervaded the people on this occasion; but it was too much like the morning cloud and

early dew. From that time, nothing of a signal nature occurred, until the year 1826, when a considerable religious excitement occurred among the aged and the young. Twenty-six were added to the church last summer, and about 40 communed on that occasion; which was truly a solemn scene, and it is hoped will not soon be forgotten. As it respects the other congregations, there is more cause of regret and humiliation, than of rejoicing. Although there are some warm-hearted and sincere christians, who mourn on account of the breach now existing in Zion, there is a general gloom impending, and the congregations are in a deplorable situation. But we look forward to the time when the truth shall become victorious, and when righteousness shall prevail.

Rev. Henry Graeber, for a number of years a respectable member of the Lutheran Synod of Maryland and Virginia, has lately accepted a call to Lincoln county, N. C., and now preaches in six congregations. These churches have for some years been very much harassed and injured by the unprecedented conduct of a certain individual and his adherents, who have occasioned discord and division in many congregations. But there are still a considerable and respectable number of persons who are the warm friends of *truth*, and are zealously engaged in fighting the good fight of faith. The preaching of the gospel is generally well attended. A sacramental meeting was lately held at St. Paul's Church, where 40 persons communed, besides 21 young persons, who were then admitted by confirmation, and who had been previously instructed by Rev. John Reck. On this occasion, there was an overwhelming crowd of attentive hearers present, many of whom were deeply affected during the exercises; and it is hoped good impressions were made, that will not soon be obliterated. The people here are generally liberal in supporting the gospel. As an evidence of this, a certain individual made a donation of 50 acres of land to be appropriated as a Parsonage, and a commodious house built on it by the congregation, where Rev. Mr. Graeber now lives. There is reason to hope that the untiring efforts of this servant of God, will be abundantly blessed, and that the pleasure of the Lord will prosper in his hands.

Rev. William Jenkins has been preaching about three years in Tennessee; during which time his labours have been richly blessed, and his congregations visited by the gentle breezes of the spirit of God. These seasons of rejoicing commenced in the observance of the monthly concerts

for prayer. Previous to this, the churches endured a long spiritual dearth; but during the last year the Lord answered the prayers of his humble servants, and poured out his holy spirit upon New Hope, Shafner's, and several other churches, where a considerable revival of religion has been experienced, and many who are hopefully pious added to the churh. Nearly all the congregations have been occasionally visited with refreshing showers. Notwithstanding these encouraging scenes, it is often painful to witness the noxious weeds growing, instead of the sweet smelling spices which should perfume the garden of the Lord; to behold the many desolate places, and to hear the loud and urgent calls for help from Zion. Many of our members and their descendants, are dispersed through the western district of Tennessee and Alabama, who are entirely destitute of stated preaching, and many never or seldom hear the voice of a minister of our church. Rev. Mr. Jenkins has received repeated calls to visit the destitute, but preaches already in 10 congregations, most of which he has formed by his unwearied labours, and which must undoubtedly be lost or pass into the hands of others if aid is not soon obtained.

From Rev. Mr. Schoenberg's report, it appears that on his arrival at St. John's Church, in Union county, Illinois, the congregations were in a desolate condition, like sheep without a shepherd. Some had suffered themselves to be proselyted by other sects, and others had almost despaired of obtaining a minister of our persuasion. Soon, however, the wavering become more steadfast, the desponding were enabled to rejoice, and the congregations began to flourish. Hundreds of Lutherans are scattered through Illinois, Indiana and Missouri, entirely destitute of preaching by our ministers, and in some places even congregations imperfectly organized, who seem to extend their hands towards us, saying, "come over into Macedonia and help us." How painful is it, that we have to turn away from such urgent calls with a sorrowful heart, unable to supply them with the bread of life! "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few. Pray ye the Lord of the harvest to send out more labourers into his vineyard."

Rev. Daniel J. Hauer, of Guilford, has the care of six congregations, some of which are truly in a deplorable condition, occasioned, too, by persons who are unfriendly to order and sound doctrine. There are, however, still a number of zealous and respectable persons in these congre-

gations, who are warmly attached to the truth, fearless advocates of the doctrines delivered to the saints, and contained in the inspired volume. The congregation at Lexington, Davidson county, which was lately organized under the auspices of Rev. Mr. Hauer, is represented as flourishing.

Thus we have presented you with a concise but correct narrative of the state of Religion in the bounds of this Synod. There are now sixteen ministers belonging to this Judicatory, who have the care of about 50 congregations, besides a number that are vacant. During the last year, there were about 600 baptized, 287 received into full communion by confirmation; and in all, upwards of 2000 communing members. Thus we see our borders are annually enlarging, and considerable is doing; but how much still remains undone! How many immortal souls are perishing for want of the bread of life! What loud calls do we hear at every Synodical meeting, from the North and South, East and West, for ministers of the Gospel! and how shall we supply them? It is true, there are about 40 pious and promising young men now preparing in our Seminaries at Gettysburg and Hartwick; but what are these to the many vacant congregations in the United States? Should we not be willing to devote our time, our talents and our wealth, to the support of these important and growing Institutions? Should we not daily pray for their prosperity, and encourage our pious youth to dedicate themselves to the cause of the Redeemer? for these are the only sources whence we can expect able and well qualified ministers of the Gospel. Have not some of us acquaintances, friends, and perhaps children, who have emigrated to the west, and are dispersed over the vast valley of the Mississippi and Missouri, destitute perhaps of the means of grace? And can we see them remaining destitute of the blessings we so richly enjoy, environed with darkness and perishing for want of the bread of life, and remain indifferent? Can we behold other denominations embarking in the good cause, exerting every nerve to spread the gospel and to enlarge their borders; and we, who are the oldest protestant church, and the followers of the immortal Luther, remain idle spectators? Can we behold the grand march of truth and the triumphs of the gospel, and remain cold and indifferent? Let us then commence with renewed vigor, nerved and encouraged by the glorious promises of the gospel, and unite with our brethren in the North and South, to pull down the strong holds of satan and to carry the glad tidings of salvation to the destitute. To this end we have established a *Missionary Society*, and now

we would appeal to your liberality and christian feeling, to lend your aid and to contribute your mite for its encouragement; and then we shall be able to feed the hungry, and to supply the destitute; and then shall the "wilderness and the solitary places be glad, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose."

JOHN RECK, *Sec'y.*

ADDENDA.

A statement of the number of the principal Religious Communities or Denominations in the world, extracted from the "*Algemeine Kirchenzeitung*," published at Darmstadt, and which seems to have been diligently compiled, from the most authentic sources to which access could be procured; and must consequently be considered as a highly probable approximation to the truth:

Roman Catholics,		129,550,000
Protestants.....		
	Evangelic*	8,200,000
	Lutherans	16,220,000
	German Reformed	7,440,000
	English Presbyterians	4,800,000
	Independents	3,800,000
	Methodists	1,500,000
	Quakers	200,000
	Herrnhuters	100,000
	Baptists	76,000
Jews		2,650,000

* The Evangelic are those where the Lutherans and German Reformed have united.

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